

In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A device in combination with and for protecting weep hole channels, draining water and directing mortar droppings/debris from a single wythe wall comprising:

said single wythe wall composed of a plurality of structural masonry elements having multiple courses including a bottom course, each masonry element forming at least one hollow inner cell, the bottom course of masonry elements resting on a foundation wall without flashing and having inner cells communicating through at least one drainage weep hole channel in a top surface of said foundation wall ~~with the outside~~;

a separate upwardly extending water-permeable body in each hollow recess cell in the bottom course masonry elements of said wall to permit water to pass through and prevent passage of mortar and other debris;

each of said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies having a lower end substantially filling its cell area and covering the drainage weep hole channel and a transverse cross section which decreases upwardly from said lower end to allow falling of the mortar and other debris in the respective inner hollow recess cells onto a surface around each of said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies but at the same time to prevent blockage of said drainage weep hole;

whereby water in each of the inner cells of masonry blocks of the single wythe wall can flow through a respective one of said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies into the weep hole channel and outside of the single wythe wall.

2. (original) A device as defined in claim 1, wherein each of said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies has a pyramidal shape which is tapered upwardly to increase the inner surface cell area for more room of each of

said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies for collection of the mortar and other debris.

3. (original) A device as defined in Claim 1, wherein each of said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies has a conical shape which is tapered upwardly to increase the inner surface area of the cells for more room of each of said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies for collection of the mortar and other debris.

4. (original) A device as defined in Claim 1, wherein each of said bodies has a truncated pyramidal shape.

5. (original) A device as defined in Claim 1, wherein each of said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies has a truncated tapered conical shape.

6. (currently amended) A device as in Claim 1, wherein each of said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies includes a plurality of members of upwardly decreasing cross section ~~cross section~~.

7. (previously presented) A device as defined in Claim 1, wherein each of said upwardly extending water-permeable bodies has a height sufficient to extend above the bottom course and into a next course.

8. (canceled)

9. (original) The device as in Claim 1 wherein each said body is fibrous.

10. (original) The device as in Claim 1 wherein each said upwardly extending body is texturized.

11. (currently amended) A single wythe wall, consisting of the combination of:

a plurality of structural elements formed into rows with a bottom row and subsequent rows placed over said bottom row, each structural element forming at least one inner hollow cell in said bottom row communicating with outside

through at least one drainage weep hole channel in a top surface of a foundation wall;

said bottom row resting on said foundation wall without flashing;

a separate device for draining water from each said inner hollow cell in said bottom row having a plurality of passages such as to permit water to pass through said passages and to prevent passing of mortar and other debris through said passages;

each device being an upwardly extending water-permeable body having a transverse dimension section which decreases upwardly from a lower transverse cross section in direct contact with and covering substantially all of the drainage weep hole ~~hollow~~ channel, to allow and/or direct falling of the mortar and other debris in each of the inner hollow cells onto a surface surrounding each upwardly extending water-permeable body but at the same time to prevent falling of the mortar and other debris in the respective inner hollow cells into the drainage weep hole channel;

whereby water in the inner hollow cells can flow through each said body into the drainage weep hole channel and outside of the single wythe wall.

12. (currently amended) A single wythe wall as defined in Claim 11, wherein each ~~of said~~ upwardly extending water-permeable body has a pyramidal shape which is tapered upwardly to increase the inner surface cavity area of each hollow cell for collection of the mortar and other debris, but still allows water to pass through to the base of the wall to the drainage weep hole channel device, a bottom of said body filling substantially all of a cross section of the hollow cell.

13. (previously presented) A single wythe wall as defined in Claim 11, wherein each water-permeable body has a conical shape which is tapered upwardly to increase inner surface hollow cell area of each of said structural elements ~~blocks~~ for collection of the mortar and other debris.

14. (previously presented) A single wythe wall as defined in Claim 11, wherein each body has a truncated pyramidal shape.

15. (previously presented) A single wythe wall as defined in Claim 11, wherein each upwardly extending water-permeable body has a truncated tapered conical shape.

16. (currently amended) A single wythe wall as in Claim 11, wherein each of said upwardly extending water-permeable body includes a plurality of members of upwardly decreasing cross section ~~crossection~~.

17. (currently amended) A single wall as defined in Claim 11, wherein each said upwardly extending water-permeable body ~~bodies extends into~~ has a height adapted to exceed a height of at least one of the structural elements.

18. (canceled)

19. (original) The single wythe wall as in Claim 11 wherein each said upwardly extending body is fibrous.

20. (original) The single wythe wall as in Claim 11 wherein each said upwardly extending body is texturized.

21. (currently amended) A method of draining water from a single wythe wall and protecting a drainage weep channel thereof comprising the steps of:

forming said single wythe wall from a plurality of structural elements, said structural elements placed over one another and each forming at least one inner hollow cell, lowermost structural elements resting on a foundation wall without flashing and the hollow cells of lowermost structural elements communicating with outside through at least one drainage weep hole channel in a top surface of said foundation wall;

introducing into the inner hollow cells of said lowermost structural elements a separate upwardly extending water-permeable body having a plurality

of passages to permit water to pass through said passages and to prevent passing of mortar and other debris through said passages; and,

forming each said upwardly extending water-permeable body with a transverse dimension which decreases upwardly from a lower transverse cross section substantially fully covering the drainage weep hole channel completely by the lower transverse cross section and to direct falling of the mortar and other debris in the inner hollow cell onto a surface surrounding each said upwardly extending water-permeable body;

whereby water entering each of the inner hollow cells of the lowermost structural elements will flow through a upwardly extending water-permeable body into the drainage weep hole channel and outside of the single wythe wall.

22-39. (canceled)

40. (currently amended) The method of Claim 21 in which each said upwardly extending ~~extended~~ body extends into one or more structural elements above said lowermost structural elements.

41. (currently amended) The method of Claim 40 in which a bottom of the lower transverse cross section of said upwardly extending water-permeable body is in direct contact ~~through mortar~~ with said drainage weep hole channel in said upper surface of said ~~an underlying~~ foundation wall.

42. (previously presented) The method of Claim 41 in which each said upwardly extending water-permeable body is conical in shape.

43. (previously presented) The method of Claim 41 in which each said upwardly extending water-permeable body has a truncated pyramidal shape.